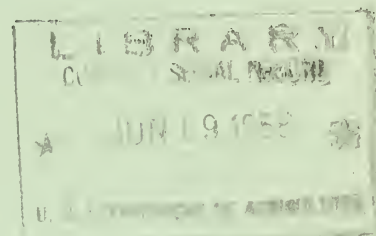


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FARMER COOPERATIVE SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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GRAIN MARKETING SURVEY IN MISSISSIPPI, LOUISIANA, AND ARKANSAS

By

Daniel H. McVey



HIGHLIGHTS

In answer to a request from a grain study committee of cooperative and farmer-owned elevator managers, Farmer Cooperative Service made this marketing survey. Major facts brought out were as follows:

1. Grain production (exclusive of rice) in Mississippi and Arkansas has increased rapidly, reaching a record of 136.5 million bushels in 1957. The average annual production for the period 1955-57 was 135.2 million bushels compared to 100.9 million in the 1940-44 period. This has been accomplished despite a small decline in acreage.

2. There has been a radical shift in acreage devoted to and production of the kinds of grains. Corn acreage, in particular, has declined sharply; production has declined also, but to a lesser extent. Soybean acreage and production have shown the most consistent and rapid increase. The increase in oats has been erratic but wheat and grain sorghum have increased sharply in recent years.

3. The total amount and proportion of grain sold off the farm where grown have also increased rapidly. For the 1940-44 period, average annual sales for the two States amounted to 12.8 million bushels or 12.7 percent of the production. Comparable sales figures for 1955-57 were 71.1 million bushels, or 52.1 percent of production.

4. Acreage, production, and sales of grain for the 25 Delta counties in the two States are even more striking than for the States as a whole. These counties contain less than 20 percent of the land in farms in the States but in 1956:

- a. They harvested 35 percent of the grain acreage.
- b. They produced 36.5 percent of the grain.
- c. They sold 44.1 percent of the States' grain crops.
- d. They sold 65.7 percent of the grain they produced.

5. Production of grain in this area is likely to continue upward as better cultural practices are adopted and marketing facilities developed.

6. The proportion of grain sold is likely to continue upward as farmers turn to the use of mixed feeds and better feeding practices.

7. Practically all the cooperative and other farmer-owned commercial grain storage facilities are on the Mississippi Delta side. That State has a total commercial storage capacity of 8,294,000 bushels of which 6,354,000, or 77 percent is in the Delta counties. It is estimated that about 1,250,000 bushels of this storage is for rice and it is all in the Delta.

8. The farmer-owned facilities have storage capacity of about 3,150,000 bushels in the Delta or about 60 percent of the grain storage exclusive of rice. There are two cooperative elevators across the river with 410,000 bushels of storage--one in Arkansas and one in Louisiana.

9. It is estimated that these farmer-owned facilities will handle around 7 million bushels of grain in the 1957 crop year. With terminal facilities, this could easily reach 10 million bushels.

10. Much of the grain moves to market at harvest time and usually at depressed prices; then a few months later the prices move up.

11. Much of the grain is sold for export through New Orleans. A number of complaints were heard regarding embargoes, inspection, and grades.

12. Railroad transportation south appeared fairly adequate but expensive. East to west, it is inadequate. Movement across the river is extremely difficult by rail or truck because of the lack of bridges. A much higher freight rate is in effect west of the river than to the east.

13. A terminal facility to receive and ship grain by truck, rail, and water has been constructed at Helena, Ark. A similar facility is under construction at Greenville, Miss. These are the only two known terminals between Memphis and Vicksburg.

14. So far as is known, commercial grain storage in the area, other than that farmer-owned, is not available to producers for storing their grain. Such space is used by the owners for their merchandising and milling operations.

15. The survey revealed keen interest in terminal facilities on the part of local elevator managers. Their experiences in selling to buyers in the area as well as shipping to New Orleans apparently had convinced them that the grain producers should have their own terminal facilities, if they were to do an effective marketing job.

16. The survey indicates the farmer cooperatives and other farmer-owned elevators in this area have sufficient facilities and volume to support a terminal elevator operation at Greenville, Miss., if they are willing to work together. If it is decided to establish terminal facilities, the potential volume indicates that handling facilities should be of sufficient capacity to take care of any additional storage that might be needed.

Grain Marketing Survey in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas

By Daniel H. McVey
Grain Branch, Marketing Division

The request for this study resulted from a meeting of a grain study committee composed of cooperative and farmer-owned elevator managers and operators and other interested persons, primarily in Mississippi. The request was transmitted through S. W. Box, Leader, Extension Marketing, and Henry Jones, Assistant Marketing Specialist, Field Crops, of the Mississippi Extension Service. As stated in their request, "The purpose of this survey is to assist us in determining the present and long-time need for additional marketing facilities and organization."

In compliance with their request, considerable data on production and sale of grain have been collected. A field survey of cooperative and other commercial farmer-owned storage facilities and operations was made.

The field work and most of the survey data in this report pertain to the Mississippi River Delta area of Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas, since:

1. Grain production has increased more rapidly in this area.
2. Off-farm sales of grain in relation to production are much higher.
3. Most of the farmer-owned facilities are in this area.
4. The area surrounds Greenville, Miss., which appears to be the logical location for a terminal elevator, if it is decided to construct such facilities.

Note: The author gratefully acknowledges the help and information supplied by Henry Jones, Extension Marketing Specialist, Cereal Crops, Mississippi Extension Service; elevator managers and county agents in the Delta of Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana; Jane L. Searce, Farmer Cooperative Service, for preparing the tables and illustrations; Ray Converse, of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture, and Miles McPeak of the Arkansas Department of Agriculture, for statistical information.

In this report each of the State areas will be discussed separately.

All tables and figures are at
the end of this report

Mississippi

Since 1940, the total acreage devoted to grain crops (excluding rice) in Mississippi has shown a rather gradual decline and currently is nearly 600,000 acres less than in the early 1940's. Total acreage in 1957 was about 2.7 million. Corn still accounts for more than half the acreage but the acreage devoted to this crop has declined by a half in the 18 years. Oats has shown wide fluctuations while wheat has been relatively insignificant until 1957 when the acreage was 9 times the previous year. Soybeans has shown the most consistent annual acreage increase and currently is around 700,000 acres (table 1 and figure 1).

Total grain production has shown a general upward trend, with the exception of some drought years, despite the decline in acreage (table 2 and figures 2 and 3). Estimated production in 1957 at 75.3 million bushels is 50 percent greater than in 1940 despite nearly a 20 percent decline in acreage!

This increase in production is due to increased yields per acre (table 3). Corn and soybeans yields in particular have increased and oats has shown a significant increase in the last 5 years.

Table 4 shows the average acreage and production of the five principal grains for specified periods beginning with 1940-44. This eliminates some of the year to year fluctuations. Notice the decline in acreage and the increase in production. The average yield of the five grains combined in 1940-44 was 17.4 bushels per acre. For the period 1955-57, the comparable

figure was 26.7 bushels--an increase of 53 percent.

Elevator operators are more interested in the amount of grain sold off the farm than in the amount produced. Such data are in table 5 and figure 4 for the State as a whole. The trend in grain sold has been almost continuously upward since 1940 and has been around 40 percent of production for the past 3 years. In the period 1940-44 with an average yearly production of 56.3 million bushels, only 6.1 million bushels or 11 percent were sold. For the 3-year period 1955-57, production averaged 71.1 million bushels but the amount sold averaged 28.6 million bushels or 40 percent of the total production. This upward trend in the percent moving to market is likely to continue as farmers increase their consumption of mixed feeds and swing away from feeding home-grown grains.

Great variation exists in the proportion of the different grains sold off the farm where produced. For example, in the 3-year period 1955-57, only 18 percent of the corn was sold while 95 percent of the soybeans went to market (table 6). Other grains ranged between these two with wheat at 68 percent, oats at 56 percent, and sorghum at 46 percent.

According to the 1955 Census of Agriculture, there were 20.7 million acres of land in farms in Mississippi with 4.1 million, or less than 20 percent in the 13 Delta counties. With less than 20 percent of the land in farms, these 13 Delta counties in 1956 harvested more than 41 percent of the grain acreage and produced a corresponding amount of the grain crop (table 7).

Even more striking, however, almost two-thirds of the grain produced was sold as compared to the rest of the State, which sold only 17 percent of its production. This is accounted for by the fact that the Delta farmers produce the bulk of the soybeans, oats, and wheat crops that move to market as compared to corn, most of the latter being fed on the farm where produced.

Even so, the Delta growers sell more than twice as much of their corn production as the rest of the State sells and have an even greater ratio on oats.

The increase in grain production between 1952 and 1956 for the State was nearly 57 percent. The increase was practically 100 percent in the Delta counties with six of them more than doubling their production (table 8 and figure 5). In 1952, the Delta counties produced about 32 percent of the total. In 1956, they produced a little more than 41 percent of the total. It is estimated that about two-thirds of the grain sold off farms in 1956 was from the Delta area and one-third from the rest of the State.

According to the Mississippi Extension Service there were 8,294,000 bushels of commercial storage in the State early in 1957. The Delta counties had 6,354,000 bushels, or nearly 77 percent of the total. There was 1 bushel of storage in the Delta for each 2.8 bushels of grain for sale or almost twice as much storage in relation to sales as the rest of the State.

There was considerable variation between counties with Tallahatchie, Tunica, and Issaquena having none or very small amounts while other counties had more adequate amounts. (Storage figures include some rice--estimated at 1,275,000 bushels.) Farmers own about 3.2 million bushels of grain storage in the Delta, or 60 percent of the total.

Much of the grain for sale moves to market at harvest time, often resulting in depressed prices partly because there are not enough storage facilities. For example, the average mid-month prices received by farmers for corn for the 7 crop years, 1950-56, ranged from a low of \$1.41 a bushel in November to \$1.61 in June--a gain of 20 cents a bushel (table 9 and figure 6). For the same period soybean prices moved from a low of \$2.27 a bushel in October to \$2.78 in April--an increase of 51 cents. Wheat and oats also showed gains of 16 cents to 18 cents a bushel from the low in July to

the high in the winter months (table 10 and figure 6). These are Statewide figures. There is probably considerable variation within the State for various areas with the growers in the surplus producing areas receiving a lower price.

Arkansas

Information obtained on Arkansas grain was confined to the 12 southeast counties--the southern half of the Arkansas Delta. The northern half of the Delta counties (including a few near Memphis) were excluded because the natural movement of grain from the area would be to Memphis where terminal facilities exist.

Since 1940, the total acreage devoted to the production of grain (exclusive of rice) in Arkansas declined rather sharply from 2.5 million acres to 1.8 million acres in 1953. There has been a decided increase since then to 2.8 million acres in 1957, and a pronounced shift in the acreage devoted to the various grains.

Corn accounted for more than 80 percent of the total acres in 1940 but had declined by more than 75 percent by 1957 when it comprised less than 20 percent of the total. The acreage of oats has varied considerably over the period with the last 3 years being much higher than previously. There was a general upward trend in wheat acreage but it never reached 100,000 acres until 1957. Soybeans have shown a phenomenal increase from 63,000 acres in 1940 to 1,545,000 acres in 1957. In 1940 soybeans accounted for only 2.5 percent of the total grain acreage; this had increased to 55.0 percent in 1957. Grain sorghum was relatively unimportant except for the past 3 years (table 11 and figure 7).

The total production of grain in Arkansas fluctuated considerably from 1940 to 1954 from a high of nearly 54 million bushels in 1940 to less than 30 million bushels in 1953. In each of the past 3 years, production has exceeded 60 million bushels. Corn production has shown a decided decline while wheat, soybeans and sorghum have been on the increase. These three grains accounted for only 2.5 percent of the total production in 1940 but

nearly 63 percent of the total in 1957. Soybeans alone accounted for more than 50 percent of the total production in 1957 (table 12 and figures 7, 8, and 9).

Yields per acre fluctuated widely between 1940 and 1957, although there has been a general upward trend. Wheat and oats yields were noticeably smaller in 1957 (table 13).

Table 14 shows the average acreage and production of grain for specified periods beginning with 1940-44 to eliminate some of the year-to-year fluctuations. Notice that corn acreage has declined considerably more than production. The average yield per acre of all grains combined in 1940-44 was 18.1 bushels. For the period 1955-57, the comparable figure was 23.6 bushels--an increase of more than 30 percent.

The trend in the amount of grain sold off the farm has been almost continuously upward since 1940 and in 1957 is running 65 to 70 percent of production. In the period 1940-44 with an average yearly production of 44.6 million bushels, only 6.7 million bushels, or less than 15 percent, were sold. For the 3-year period 1955-57, production averaged 63.5 million bushels, but the amount sold averaged 42.5 million bushels, or just under 67 percent of production (table 15 and figure 10).

There is wide variation in the proportion of the different grains sold off the farm where grown. A lot of the corn is still fed on the farm while most of the soybeans are sold. In the 3-year period, 1955-57, only 22 percent of the corn was sold while more than 96 percent of the soybeans were sold. Sixty percent or more of the sorghum and oats production was sold and more than 80 percent of the wheat went to market (table 16).

According to the 1955 Census of Agriculture, there were 17.9 million acres of land in farms in Arkansas with 3.5 million acres or 19.5 percent

in the 12 southeastern Delta counties. With less than 20 percent of the land in farms, these 12 Delta counties harvested nearly 29 percent of the total grain acreage in 1956 and produced nearly 32 percent of the grain crop. The proportion of the crop sold off the farm was also higher in these counties--67 percent as compared to 63 percent for the remainder of the State (table 17).

Between 1952 and 1956, grain production more than doubled for the State as a whole. In these 12 Delta counties, it increased more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ times as compared to a 92 percent increase for the rest of the State. All but three of the 12 counties more than doubled their production and these three increased 70 percent or more (table 18 and figure 5).

Other than storage facilities for rice, the only known commercial farmer-owned grain elevator in this 12-county area is the cooperative in Lee County. It has a storage capacity of 200,000 bushels. Some of the rice facilities on individual farms and even some of the commercial rice facilities are used for grain storage.

Much of the grain for sale moves to market at harvest and usually results in depressed prices partly because there is not enough storage. For example, the average mid-month prices received by farmers for corn for the 7 crop years, 1950-56, ranged from a low of \$1.38 a bushel in November to \$1.54 in July--a gain of 16 cents a bushel (table 19). For the same period, soybean prices moved from a low of \$2.27 a bushel in October to \$2.88 in May--an increase of 61 cents a bushel (table 19 and figure 11). Wheat and oats showed gains of 16 cents a bushel (table 20 and figure 11). Since these are Statewide figures, there is probably considerable variation between the various areas on prices received.

Louisiana

Only the two northeast parishes in Louisiana were included in this study because of their location with respect to Greenville, Miss., the grain production pattern, and the natural flow of grain from surrounding parishes to points down river.

Statistics on production and marketing of grain by parishes in Louisiana are not nearly so complete as in Arkansas and Mississippi. The only information obtained was from county agents and the manager of one local cooperative elevator.

In Madison Parish, corn production is fairly stable. Soybeans, oats, and wheat have been on the increase. There is no public storage in the county. One plantation has 50,000 bushels of storage for their soybeans. Lack of handling and storage facilities has held down the production of grains. Prices have been seriously depressed at harvest. In the summer of 1957, wheat sold down to \$1.35 a bushel at harvest time.

In East Carroll Parish the situation is somewhat different. Cattle and small grain production have been pushed. Probably more corn is grown in this parish than any other in the area included in the study. About half the production goes to market. Soybeans are an important crop. Wheat was way up this year but some of this land will be planted to oats this fall. There are two private elevators at Lake Providence and a cooperative elevator south of the town. The elevator operators are aggressive and there is enough competition to keep prices from being too depressed. Some grain has been shipped from Lake Providence to New Orleans by barge.

The cooperative elevator, which has 210,000 bushels of storage, has a good volume. About 40 percent of the volume is rice. The elevator will handle corn for the first time this fall.

An elaborate cattle feeding operation was getting underway in the southern part of the parish. Plans were to feed 26,000 head a year in a feed lot; this would require a lot of grain. They had storage for 280,000 bushels of ear corn. This operation could offer an important outlet for locally produced grain.

Field Survey

The field survey was confined to the Mississippi River Delta area around Greenville, Miss., and included 13 counties in Mississippi, 12 counties in southeast Arkansas, and 2 parishes in northeast Louisiana. The reason for this was that Greenville appeared to be a central and logical point for terminal operations in this area of heavy grain production with a high proportion of it being sold off the farm. Also, most of the co-operative and corporation farmer-owned elevators are located in this area, primarily in Mississippi.

Production

Most of the farmer controlled elevator people and county agents in the area were contacted. Their concensus was that grain production was in the area to stay even though cotton and rice acreage allotments will continue to be fully planted. In fact, they looked for production of grain to increase. Some of the important factors cited were:

1. Acreage controls on cotton and rice will likely be continued.
2. A large percentage of the labor supply has left the farm.
3. Most farms now have the equipment necessary to produce and harvest their grain.
4. Wheat production in Mississippi will decline from current levels when it reaches the "commercial" State level but farmers will likely put such land in oats and barley.
5. Sorghum production will increase when adapted, open-headed, hybrid varieties are developed.
6. Soybeans will continue to be an important cash crop.
7. There is increasing irrigation of corn to help in maturity.
8. Improved cultural practices will increase per acre yields.

9. Double cropping will increase such as soybeans or sorghum being planted as the small grains are harvested.

Marketing

With the increase in production, marketing problems have arisen. Much of the grain moves from the farm at harvest and at depressed prices. For example, wheat sold for \$1.35 a bushel in northeast Louisiana last summer.

There is considerable export movement through New Orleans but a number of complaints were made regarding embargoes and grades. There are not enough grain inspectors to do shipping point inspection and grading work. Therefore, the grain is graded at destination. These two points were raised many times during the survey.

Rail transportation south from the area appeared to be fairly good. East to west it was reported inadequate.

The lack of roads and bridges in the Arkansas area hinders the grain movement by both rail and truck. Trucks can cross the river on bridges at Vicksburg, Greenville, and Memphis. Railroads can cross at these three points and at Helena.

A much higher freight rate is in effect west of the river than to the east. This is another hampering factor in grain movement. Lack of railroad transportation eastward tends to keep grain from this area from moving into the broiler producing areas in Alabama and Georgia. It is more economical for the broiler producers in northwest Arkansas to bring in grain from Missouri and Iowa than to use grain produced in eastern Arkansas.

Under the circumstances just described, the few buyers in the area at harvest have little incentive for paying high prices or buying on grade.

Another factor that was mentioned was that at harvest a lot of grain moves from the area, then later it is necessary to buy grain from the grain

producing States to the North and West at considerably higher prices. This will become intensified as livestock, and particularly broiler production, expands and transportation costs increase.

Storage

Most of the cooperative and farmer-owned corporation elevator facilities in the area are in Mississippi, and most of them were contacted during the survey. Rice elevators were excluded although some of them do handle grain. Contamination becomes a problem in handling rice and small grains through the same facilities and the practice is discouraged by the rice mills.

Most of the county agents and elevator managers indicated there were a lot of problems in connection with farm storage of grain. Many of them have used existing buildings such as tenant houses or have purchased inferior equipment. With the high humidity it is difficult to dry wet grain by aeration and spoilage results. Insect infestation builds up. Farmers just don't take the time to look after the grain. Several agents said they were no longer recommending farm storage.

Table 8 shows estimated storage capacity in the Mississippi Delta area of 6,354,000 bushels, of which 1,275,000 bushels are estimated to be rice facilities and 5,079,000 bushels for grain. Approximately 60 percent, or 3,140,000 bushels of this grain storage, is owned by farmer cooperatives or farmer-owned corporations. From the survey, they indicated that they will handle about 6.8 million bushels of grain this year and with terminal facilities they estimated they would handle around 10 million bushels. Incidentally, most of these facilities are relatively new and modern and were built to store farmers' grain at harvest time. Storage space, for the most part, has been allocated on the basis of the amount of stock subscribed. Several of them have added facilities in the last year and others plan to expand. They all had the feeling that if they owned a terminal,

the merchandising activities would expand considerably.

The storage situation is quite different in southeast Arkansas and northeast Louisiana. Only one cooperative grain elevator was found in each of these States and other commercial storage, except for rice, is very limited. The two cooperatives had 410,000 bushels of storage (including about 50,000 bushels for rice at one of them) and could handle 1,250,000 bushels of grain this year.

Cargill, Quaker Oats, Valley Mills, and Ralston-Purina are some of the larger commercial grain concerns that have been operating in the area and have facilities located in the area or adjacent to it. A number of the cottonseed oil mills in or adjacent to the area also crush soybeans and have some storage for that crop. H. A. M. Grain Company in 1956 constructed a modern terminal elevator at Helena, Ark., and is able to make river shipments of grain. They are constructing a similar facility at Greenville, Miss. It is understood that the handling facilities installed at these locations was of such capacity that considerably more storage space could be added without facility alteration.

So far as is known very little, if any, of this commercial storage capacity is available to the producers for the storage of their grain. Such space is used by the concern for their own merchandising and milling operations.

Farmer-Owned Terminal Facilities

During the field survey, managers of the local elevators indicated keen interest in farmer-owned terminal facilities. Apparently their experiences in selling to buyers in the area as well as shipping to New Orleans had convinced them that the grain producers should have their own terminal if they were to do an effective marketing job. In this connection, cooperative grain regionals in other parts of the country became really

effective in marketing after they established ~~terminal~~ facilities.

Possible Advantages

Some of the advantages of cooperative terminal facilities for the farmer-owned elevators in this area appear to be:

1. They would supply an additional outlet for producers' grain in sufficient volume to allow bargaining in the market place.
2. They would furnish additional storage that would help ease the pressure on prices at harvest time.
3. Terminal storage could alleviate the need for some additional local elevators or expansion at existing locals.
4. A terminal would offer increased possibilities for blending grains of different quality to avoid discounts because of the large volume moving through it. A good example of this came in the summer of 1957 when a lot of wheat was low-test weight. At least one of the large locals had enough volume so that it was able to do a blending job and did not receive any discounts for low-test-weight wheat.
5. A terminal operation would simplify the inspection and grading of the grain and result in a much larger percentage being graded before shipment.
6. Flexibility in handling and merchandising would be enhanced by a terminal. Grain could be shipped or received by truck, rail, or water. Shipping or receiving by water should result in a considerable saving on transportation charges. For example, the manager of the cooperative elevator at Lake Providence has barged wheat and soybeans to New Orleans for 15 cents a hundred-weight. The current comparable rail rate of $51\frac{1}{2}$ cents a

hundredweight, either domestic or export, does not include the transportation tax of 3 percent on the value of the grain. Grain needed from the North could be barged down the river at a saving in transportation cost if receiving facilities were available.

7. A terminal, by providing an additional efficient marketing outlet, should encourage the production of additional high-quality grain. This, in turn, would increase the volume through the locals and enable them to operate at a lesser cost per bushel, thereby returning more to the growers.
8. A cooperatively owned terminal would, of course, return any net margins to its members based on patronage. This in turn would be returned to the growers by the locals. In case of some of the other cooperative grain regionals, such returns have been substantial and have increased since they acquired terminal facilities.

Table 1.--Acreage harvested of principal grain crops in Mississippi, 1940-1957

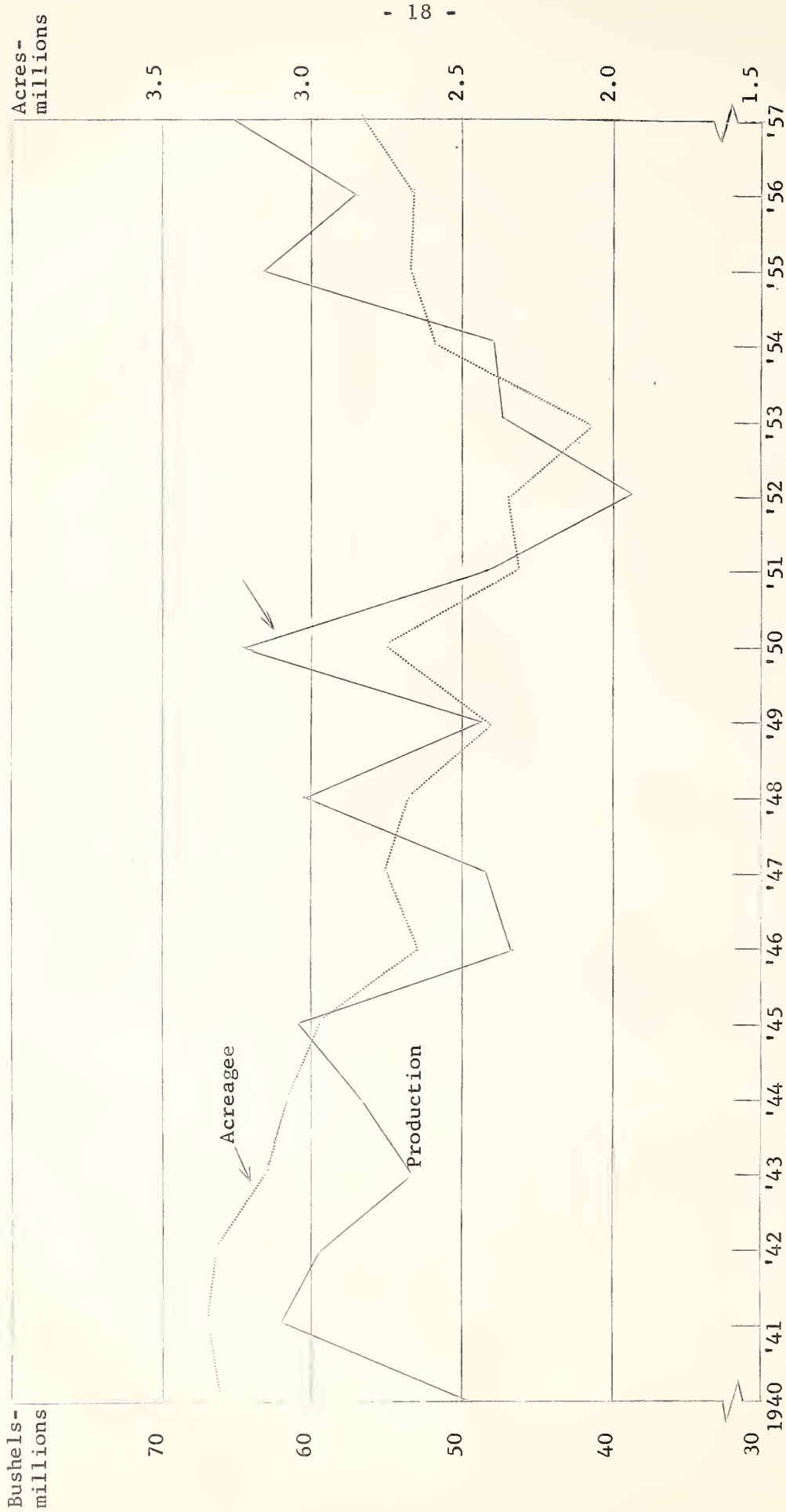
Year	Corn	Oats	Wheat	Soybeans	Sorghum	Total
<u>Thousand acres</u>						
1940	3,047	217	3	39	<u>1/</u>	3,306
1941	2,986	282	11	71	<u>1/</u>	3,350
1942	2,834	310	7	191	<u>1/</u>	3,342
1943	2,692	322	8	128	<u>1/</u>	3,150
1944	2,530	444	18	76	<u>1/</u>	3,068
1945	2,429	462	18	83	<u>1/</u>	2,992
1946	2,210	323	9	96	<u>1/</u>	2,638
1947	2,254	365	16	122	<u>1/</u>	2,757
1948	2,209	274	12	174	<u>1/</u>	2,669
1949	2,054	156	8	176	5	2,399
1950	2,218	139	8	358	6	2,729
1951	1,819	97	6	425	2	2,349
1952	1,764	136	15	455	3	2,373
1953	1,570	218	45	250	3	2,086
1954	1,664	349	28	519	5	2,565
1955	1,614	401	13	626	20	2,674
1956 ₂	1,566	341	18	732	8	2,665
1957 ₂ /	1,488	361	162	681	45	2,737

1/ Not available

2/ Indicated for wheat on July 1, 1957, and for other grains on Sept. 1, 1957

Source: Base Book of Mississippi Agriculture No. 1 and Sup. 2, Mississippi Crop and Livestock Reporting Service; Crop Production, Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Dept. of Agric.

Figure 1.--Acreage harvested and production of grain in Mississippi, 1940-57 1/



1/ Corn, oats, wheat, soybeans for beans and grain sorghum

Table 2.--Production of principal grain crops in Mississippi, 1940-1957

Year	Corn	Oats	Wheat	Soybeans	Sorghums	Total
Thousand bushels						
1940	42,658	6,944	84	390	1/	50,076
1941	50,762	10,152	297	746	1/	61,957
1942	48,178	9,300	175	2,674	1/	59,327
1943	41,726	9,660	208	1,536	1/	53,130
1944	40,733	14,918	407	912	1/	56,970
1945	46,151	13,398	360	1,079	1/	60,988
1946	35,360	9,690	198	1,440	1/	46,688
1947	37,191	9,125	312	1,708	1/	48,336
1948	48,598	8,494	228	3,132	1/	60,452
1949	42,107	3,213	132	2,904	80	48,346
1950	52,123	3,475	160	8,950	100	64,800
1951	39,108	2,813	150	5,525	39	47,635
1952	27,342	5,032	390	6,142	51	38,937
1953	34,540	8,720	1,192	3,000	51	47,503
1954	27,456	13,960	784	5,190	84	47,474
1955	48,240	12,030	286	11,894	380	73,010
1956	39,150	15,345	504	11,712	144	66,855
1957 ^{2/}	43,152	14,079	4,050	12,939	1,125	75,345

^{1/} Not available.

^{2/} Indicated for wheat on July 1, 1957, and for other grains on Sept. 1, 1957

Source: Base Book of Mississippi Agriculture No. 1 and Sup. 2, Mississippi Crop and Livestock Reporting Service and Crop Production, Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Dept. of Agric.

Figure 2.--Production of corn in Mississippi, 1940-57

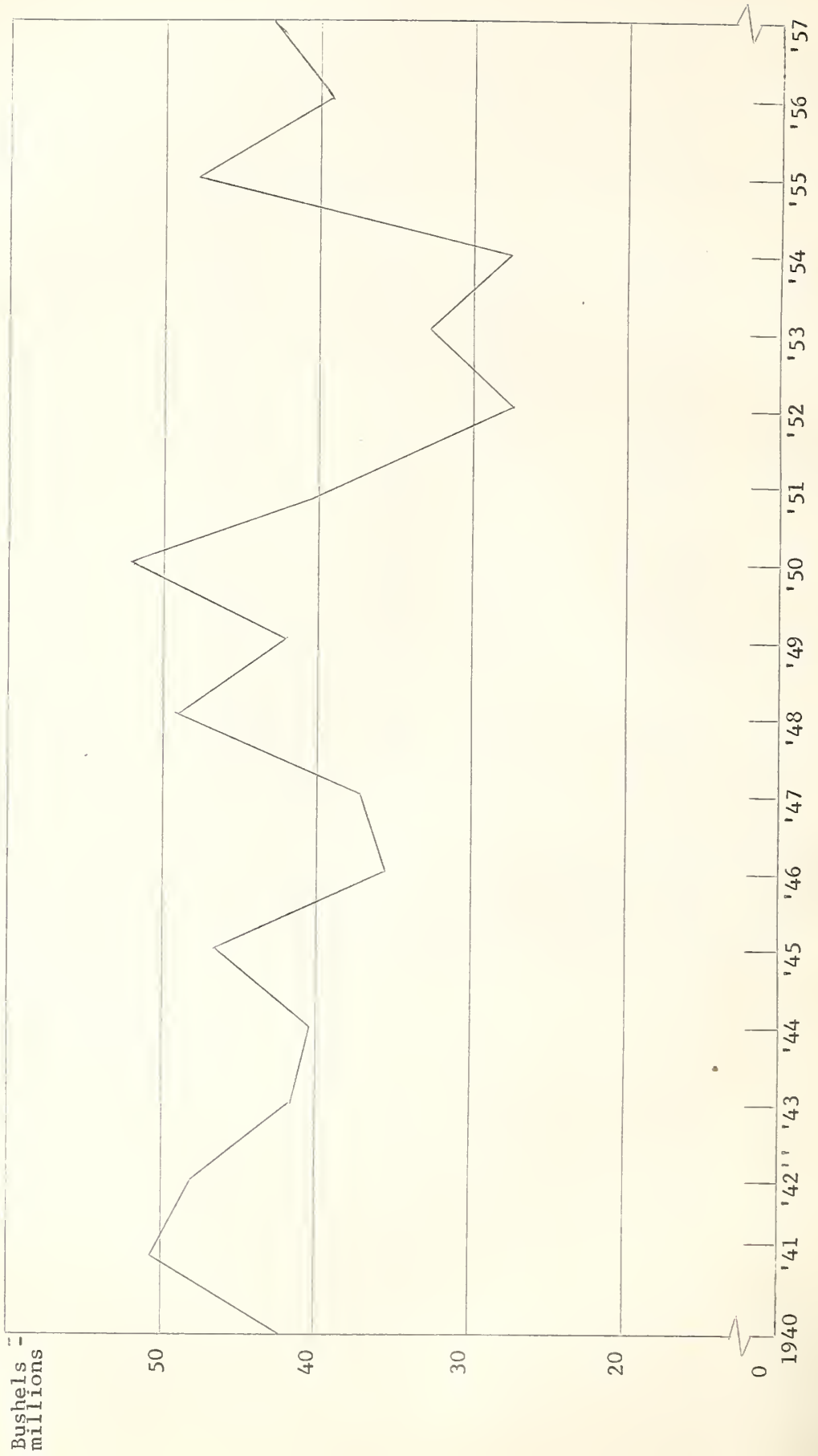


Figure 3.--Production of wheat, oats, and soybeans in Mississippi, 1940-57

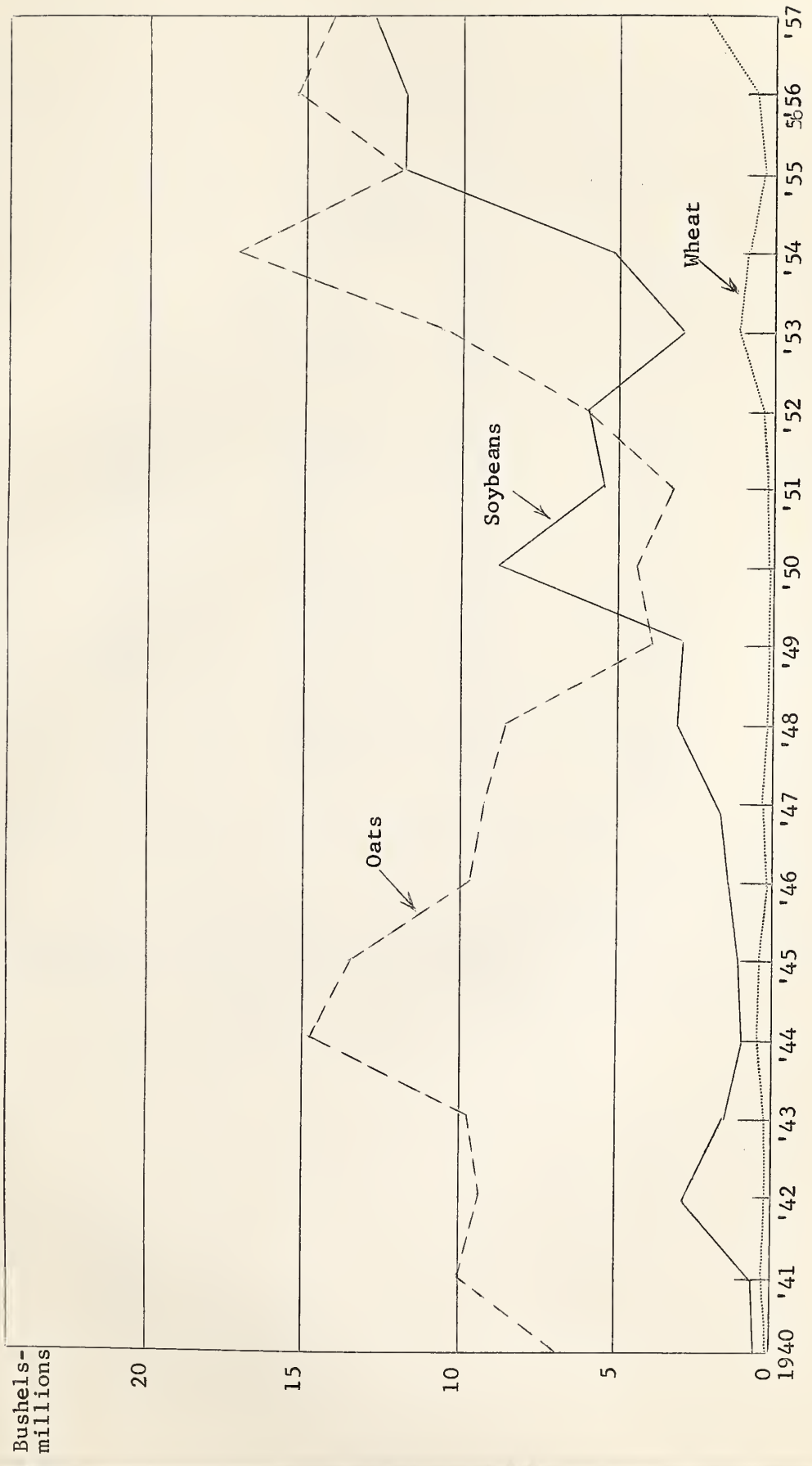


Table 3.--Yield per acre of principal grain crops in Mississippi, 1940-1957

Year	Corn	Oats	Wheat	Soybeans	Sorghums
<u>Bushels</u>					
1940	14.0	32.0	28.0	10.0	<u>1/</u>
1941	17.0	36.0	27.0	10.5	<u>1/</u>
1942	17.0	30.0	25.0	14.0	<u>1/</u>
1943	15.5	30.0	26.0	12.0	<u>1/</u>
1944	16.1	33.6	22.6	12.0	<u>1/</u>
1945	19.0	29.0	20.0	13.0	<u>1/</u>
1946	16.0	30.0	22.0	15.0	<u>1/</u>
1947	16.5	25.0	19.5	14.0	<u>1/</u>
1948	22.0	31.0	19.0	18.0	<u>1/</u>
1949	20.5	25.5	16.5	16.5	16
1950	23.5	25.0	20.0	25.0	<u>2/</u> 16.2
1951	21.5	29.0	25.0	13.0	<u>2/</u> 16.2
1952	15.5	37.0	26.0	13.5	<u>2/</u> 16.2
1953	22.0	40.0	26.5	12.0	<u>2/</u> 16.2
1954	16.5	40.0	28.0	10.0	<u>2/</u> 16.2
1955	30.0	30.0	22.0	19.0	19.0
1956	25.02	45.0	28.0	16.0	19.0
1957 <u>3/</u>	29.0	39.0	25.0	19.0	25.0

1/ Not available.

2/ Calculated average yield

3/ Indicated 7/1/57 (wheat) and 9/1/57 (other grains).

Source: Base Book of Mississippi Agriculture, No. 1 and Sup 2, Mississippi Crop and Livestock Reporting Service; Crop Production, Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Dept. of Agric.

Table 4.--Average annual acreage and production of specified grains in Mississippi by specified periods, 1940-57

Period	Average acreage					Average production				
	L:	Oats	Wheat	Soybeans	Total	Corn	Oats	Wheat	Soybeans	Total
					1/	2				1/
	<u>1,000 acres</u>					<u>1,000 bushels</u>				
1940-44	2,818	315	9	101	3,233	44,811	10,195	234	1,252	56,292
1945-49	2,231	316	13	130	2,691	41,881	8,784	246	2,053	52,980
1950-54	1,907	188	20	401	2,420	36,114	6,800	535	5,761	49,270
1955-57	1,556	368	64	680	2,692	43,574	13,818	1,613	12,182	71,737

1/ Includes grain sorghum.

Source: Tables 1 and 2.

Table 5.--Various grains sold off farm where grown, in Mississippi 1940-57

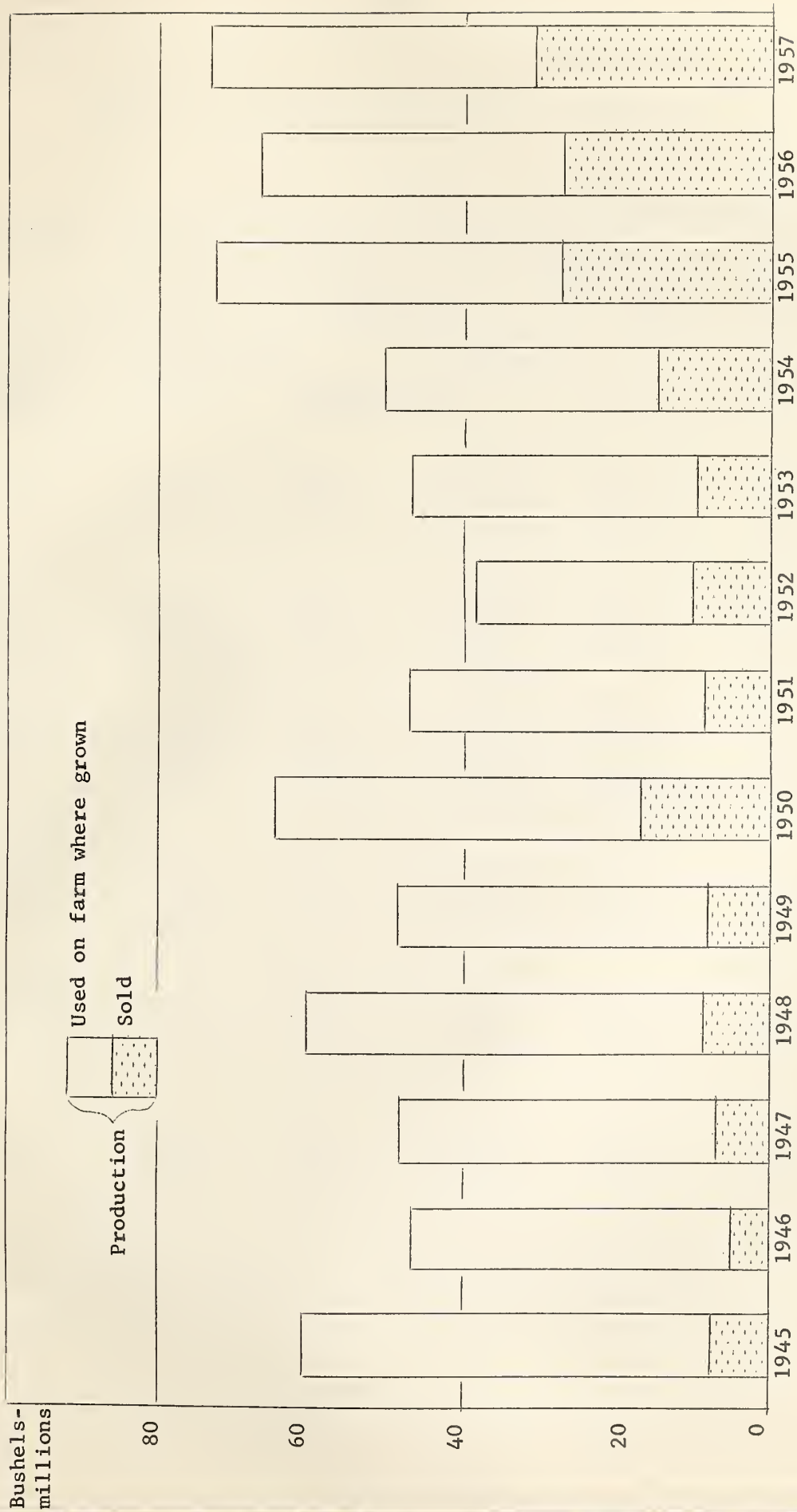
Year	Corn	Oats	Wheat	Soybeans	Sorghum	Total	Percentage of production sold
	Thousand bushels						Percent
1940	3,607	556	40	156	<u>1/</u>	4,359	8.7
1941	5,560	1,827	136	437	<u>1/</u>	7,960	12.8
1942	3,375	1,209	73	2,070	<u>1/</u>	6,727	11.3
1943	2,118	1,739	85	1,127	<u>1/</u>	5,069	9.5
1944	2,649	2,834	164	660	<u>1/</u>	6,307	11.1
1945	4,073	2,680	161	807	<u>1/</u>	7,721	12.7
1946	2,608	1,357	96	1,179	<u>1/</u>	5,240	11.2
1947	3,648	2,099	135	1,473	<u>1/</u>	7,355	15.2
1948	4,049	1,614	97	2,743	<u>1/</u>	8,503	14.1
1949	3,710	835	65	2,539	23	7,172	14.8
1950	8,114	1,077	65	8,455	35	17,746	27.4
1951	3,379	563	72	5,046	12	9,072	19.0
1952	2,611	1,761	280	5,679	15	10,346	26.6
1953	2,853	3,662	907	2,531	15	9,968	21.0
1954	4,520	7,678	552	4,829	29	17,608	37.1
1955	11,275	4,812	113	11,306	152	27,658	37.9
1956	6,024	9,974	347	11,121	43	27,509	41.1
1957 ^{2/}	6,473	8,447	2,835	12,292	563	30,610	40.6

^{1/} Not available

^{2/} Estimated

Source: Field and Seed Crops, Farm Disposition, Farm Production and Value, Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Dept. of Agric.

Figure 4.--Production and farm disposition of grain 1/ in Mississippi, 1945-57



1/ Corn, oats, wheat, soybeans for beans and grain sorghum

Table 6.--Average annual production and sale of grain in Mississippi,
by kinds, crop years 1955-57 1/

Kind of grain	Average of three crops 1955-57		Percentage of production sold
	Production	Sales	
	<u>1,000 bushels</u>		<u>Percent</u>
Corn	43,574	7,924	18.2
Oats	13,818	7,744	56.0
Wheat	1,613	1,098	68.1
Soybeans	12,182	11,573	95.0
Sorghum	<u>550</u>	<u>253</u>	<u>46.0</u>
Total	71,737	28,592	39.9

1/ 1957 indicated.

Source: Calculated from tables 2 and 5.

Table 7.--Comparison between 13 Delta counties in Mississippi 1/ and remain ng 69 counties in the State of acreage harvested and production in 1956 and sales in 1954, by kinds of grain

Kind of grain and area	1956				1954
	Acreage harvested		Production		Percentage of
	: Percentage		: Percentage		: Percentage of
	: Total		: Total		: production
	: of state		: of state		: sold
	: total		: total		: 2/
	1,000 acres	Percent	1,000 bushels	Percent	Percent
<u>Corn</u>					
Delta	216.5	13.8	6,399.6	16.3	30.4
Others	<u>1,349.5</u>	<u>86.2</u>	<u>32,759.4</u>	<u>83.7</u>	<u>14.4</u>
Total	<u>1,566.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>39,150.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>16.7</u>
<u>Oats</u>					
Delta	237.1	69.5	10,556.0	68.8	68.0
Others	<u>103.9</u>	<u>30.5</u>	<u>4,789.0</u>	<u>31.2</u>	<u>18.5</u>
Total	<u>341.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>15,345.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>54.2</u>
<u>Wheat</u>					
Delta	15.4	85.6	431.3	85.6	70.4
Others	<u>2.6</u>	<u>14.4</u>	<u>72.7</u>	<u>14.4</u>	<u>70.2</u>
Total	<u>18.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>504.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>70.4</u>
<u>Soybeans for beanss</u>					
Delta	632.0	86.3	10,064.5	85.9	92.2
Others	<u>100.0</u>	<u>13.7</u>	<u>1,647.5</u>	<u>14.1</u>	<u>92.2</u>
Total	<u>732.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>11,712.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>92.2</u>
<u>Grain sorghum</u>					
Delta	3.4	42.5	70.6	49.0	44.3
Others	<u>4.6</u>	<u>57.5</u>	<u>73.4</u>	<u>51.0</u>	<u>22.5</u>
Total	<u>8.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>144.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>33.3</u>
<u>Total</u>					
Delta	1,104.5	41.4	27,522.1	41.2	66.4
Others	<u>1,560.5</u>	<u>58.6</u>	<u>39,332.9</u>	<u>58.8</u>	<u>17.0</u>
Total	<u>2,665.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>66,855.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>37.4</u>

1/ Bolivar, Coahoma, Quitman, Tallahatchie, Tunica, Humphrys, Issaquena, Leflore, Sharkey, Sunflower, Washington, Yazoo, and Holmes.

2/ Calculated from 1954 Census of Agriculture, U. S. Bureau of the Census.

Table 8.--Grain production 1952 and 1956 1/, estimated sales 1956 1/, and elevator storage capacity 1957 for specified counties in Mississippi

Area	Grain production				Estimated	Commercial
					sales	storage
	1952 <u>2/</u>	1956 <u>3/</u>	Change		1956 <u>4/</u>	capacity <u>5/</u>
			1952 to 1956			1957
	<u>1,000 bu.</u>	<u>1,000 bu.</u>	<u>1,000 bu.</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>1,000 bu.</u>	<u>1,000 bu.</u>
<u>Delta counties:</u>						
Bolivar	1,524	2,992	+ 1,468	+ 96.3	2,118	474
Coahoma	1,134	2,230	+ 1,095	+ 96.6	1,583	570
Quitman	658	1,585	+ 927	+ 140.9	932	188
Tallahatchie	963	1,802	+ 839	+ 87.2	1,034	12
Tunica	1,398	1,647	+ 249	+ 17.8	921	32
Humphreys	658	1,663	+ 1,005	+ 152.6	1,159	522
Issaquena	387	675	+ 288	+ 74.3	410	0
Leflore	1,125	2,759	+ 1,634	+ 145.3	1,859	981
Sharkey	777	1,562	+ 784	+ 100.9	1,120	208
Sunflower	1,518	3,447	+ 1,929	+ 127.2	2,388	1,082
Washington	1,675	3,625	+ 1,950	+ 116.5	2,885	1,835
Yazoo	1,108	2,160	+ 1,052	+ 92.5	983	350
Holmes	873	1,376	+ 504	+ 57.6	652	100
Total Delta	13,797	27,522	+13,725	+ 99.5	18,044	6,354
All other counties	28,848	39,333	+10,485	+ 36.3	9,465	1,940
State total	42,645	66,855	+24,210	+ 56.8	27,509	8,294

1/ Corn, oats, wheat, and soybeans for beans and grain sorghum.

2/ County figures for wheat, soybeans, and sorghum estimated from nearest year reported by Mississippi Crop and Livestock Reports.

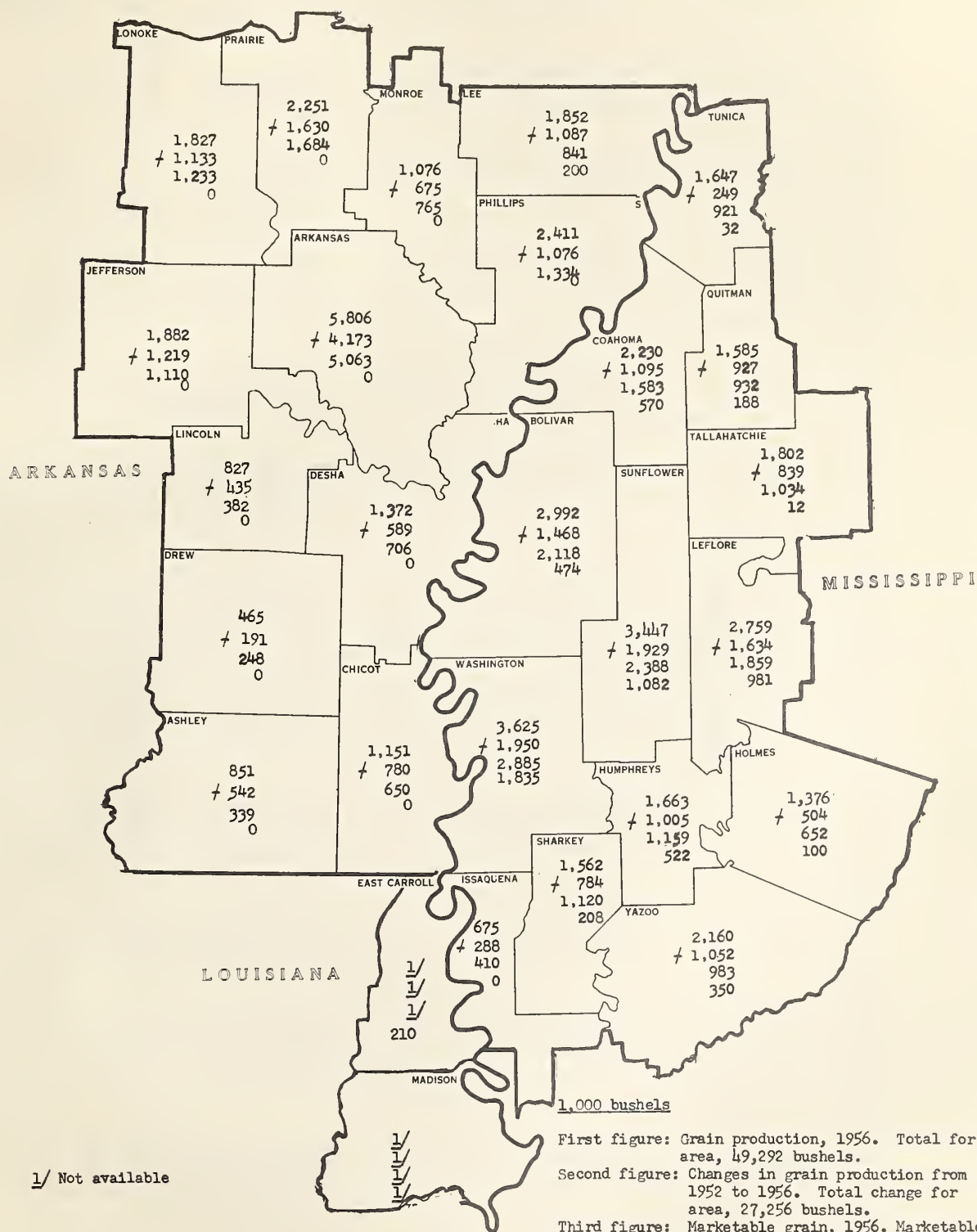
3/ County figures for wheat and sorghum estimated from 1956 figures.

4/ Estimated from amount of sales reported by 1954 Census of Agriculture, U. S. Bureau of the Census.

5/ List furnished by Mississippi Extension Service. Includes some rice storage (estimated at 1,275,000).

Figure 5 - Grain situation in 27 counties of the Delta area in Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana, 1956

All figures in thousands of bushels



First figure: Grain production, 1956. Total for area, 49,292 bushels.
 Second figure: Changes in grain production from 1952 to 1956. Total change for area, 27,256 bushels.
 Third figure: Marketable grain, 1956. Marketable grain for area, 32,399 bushels.
 Fourth figure: Storage capacity, 1957. Total for area 6,764 bushels.

Table 9,--Average mid-monthly prices received for corn and soybeans by farmers in Mississippi, 1950-51 to 1956-57

Grain and year	Oct. 15	Nov. 15	Dec. 15	Jan. 155	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 15	May 15	June 155	July 155	Aug. 155	Sept. 15
Dollars per bushel												
Corn												
1950-51	1.40	1.24	1.25	1.35	1.46	1.54	1.54	1.59	1.59	1.61	1.59	1.57
1951-52	1.54	1.63	1.68	1.81	1.87	1.89	1.97	1.99	2.01	1.96	2.01	1.97
1952-53	1.95	1.88	1.91	1.91	1.93	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.92	1.93	1.86	1.76
1953-54	1.59	1.48	1.52	1.59	1.60	1.60	1.62	1.64	1.63	1.59	1.58	1.58
1954-55	1.58	1.52	1.51	1.51	1.59	1.54	1.55	1.58	1.57	1.56	1.50	1.25
1955-56	1.09	.97	.94	1.00	1.01	1.05	1.13	1.14	1.20	1.22	1.26	1.23
1956-57	1.15	1.16	1.19	1.22	1.27	1.32	1.31	1.32	1.35	1.36	1.40	1.32
7-year average												
1950-56	1.47	1.41	1.43	1.48	1.53	1.55	1.57	1.59	1.61	1.60	1.60	1.53
Soybeans												
1950-51	1.95	2.30	2.40	2.70	2.95	3.05	3.00	3.10	3.00	2.80	2.60	2.50
1951-52	2.40	2.70	2.70	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.85	2.75	2.95	2.85	2.90	2.75
1952-53	2.75	2.70	2.70	2.65	2.70	2.80	2.90	2.90	2.80	2.65	2.50	2.30
1953-54	2.40	2.50	2.60	2.70	2.85	3.10	3.35	3.35	3.10	2.85	2.70	2.60
1954-55	2.35	2.50	2.55	2.60	2.75	2.70	2.60	2.60	2.50	2.40	2.05	2.00
1955-56	2.00	1.90	1.95	2.05	2.15	2.35	2.45	2.85	2.75	2.55	2.25	2.15
1956-57	2.05	2.15	2.20	2.25	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.25	2.30	2.23	2.10
7 year average												
1950-56	2.27	2.39	2.44	2.53	2.64	2.72	2.78	2.76	2.76	2.63	2.46	2.34

Source: Agricultural Prices, Crop Reporting Board, U. S. Dept. of Agric.

Figure 6.--Average mid-month prices received for specified grains by farmers in Mississippi, 7-year average, 1950-51 to 1956-57

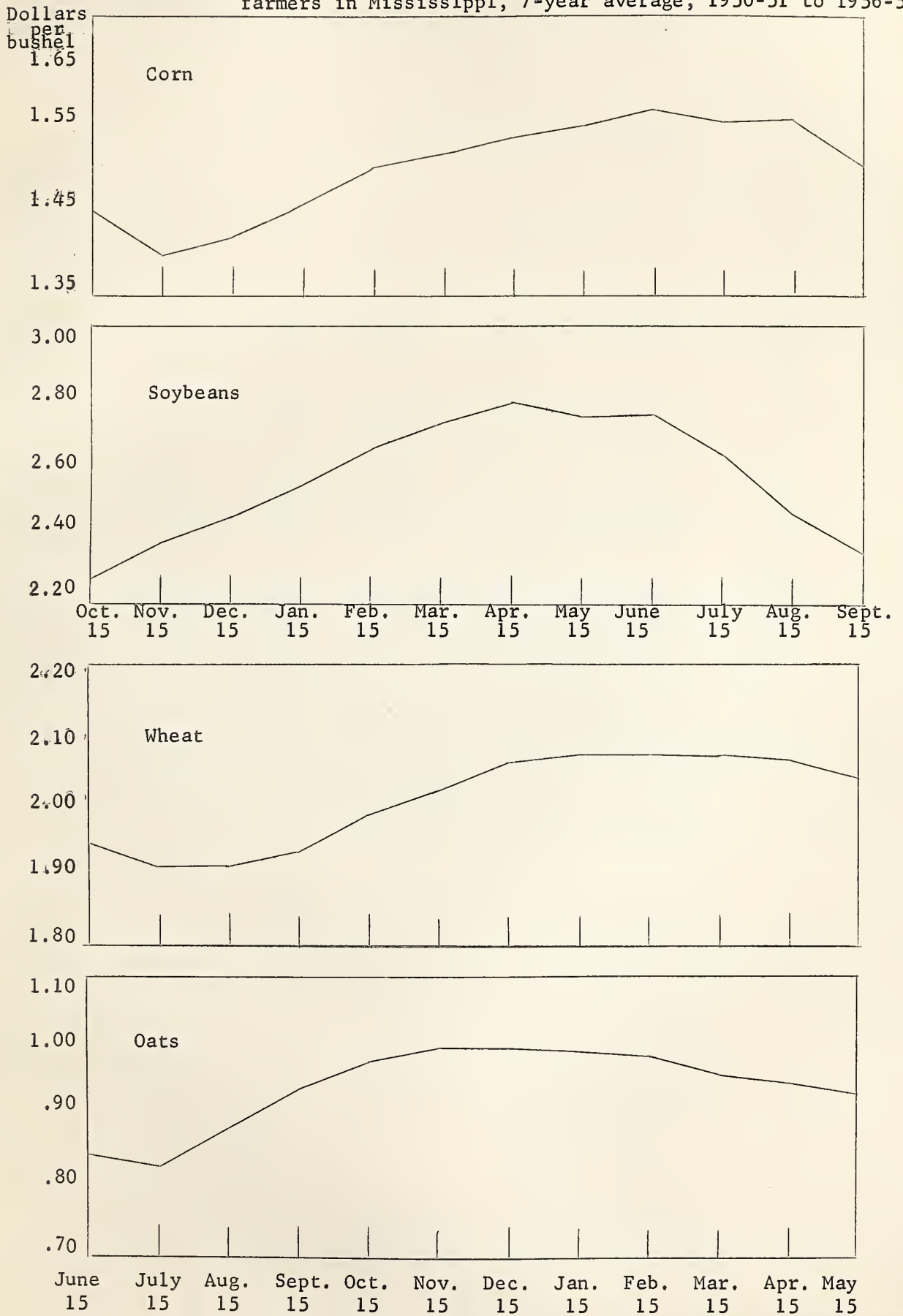


Table 10.--Average mid-monthly prices received for wheat and oats by farms in Mississippi, 1950-51 to 1956-57

Grain and year	June 15	July 15	Aug. 15	Sept. 15	Oct. 15	Nov. 15	Dec. 15	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 15	May 15
Dollars per bushel												
Wheat												
1950-51	1.90	1.95	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.10	2.15	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.20
1951-52	2.15	2.00	2.00	2.05	2.15	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25
1952-53	2.20	2.05	2.05	2.10	2.10	2.15	2.15	2.15	2.05	2.00	2.00	2.10
1953-54	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.85	1.95	2.00	2.05	2.05	2.05	2.00	2.00
1954-55	1.90	1.85	1.85	1.90	1.95	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.95	2.00
1955-56	1.85	1.85	1.75	1.75	1.85	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.85	1.85	1.85
1956-57	1.85	1.85	1.90	1.90	1.95	2.00	2.10	2.10	2.05	1.95	1.95	1.90
7 year average	1.95	1.91	1.91	1.93	1.98	2.02	2.06	2.07	2.07	2.07	2.06	2.04
1950-56												
Oats												
1950-51	.97	.98	.99	1.05	1.06	1.15	1.15	1.05	1.13	1.05	1.10	1.04
1951-52	1.04	.95	1.01	1.04	1.14	1.19	1.18	1.18	1.19	1.17	1.17	1.19
1952-53	1.00	.97	1.05	1.20	1.25	1.21	1.13	1.20	1.10	1.05	1.04	.98
1953-54	.80	.77	.89	.94	.98	.99	.95	.95	.94	.94	.94	.93
1954-55	.71	.76	.78	.83	.85	.93	.95	.95	.95	.95	.85	.83
1955-56	.73	.70	.71	.74	.74	.78	.78	.77	.77	.77	.76	.76
1956-57	.68	.70	.73	.80	.83	.85	.85	.86	.84	.82	.78	.76
7 year average	.85	.83	.88	.94	.98	1.01	1.00	.99	.99	.96	.95	.93
1950-56												

Source: Agricultural Prices, Crop Reporting Board, U. S. Dept. of Agric.

Table 11.--Acreage harvested of principal grain crops in Arkansas, 1940-57

Year	Corn	Oats	Wheat	Soybeans	Sorghum	Total
<u>1,000 acres</u>						
1940	2,192	234	31	63	14	2,534
1941	2,148	253	30	116	8	2,555
1942	2,062	304	22	217	8	2,613
1943	1,784	274	17	267	5	2,347
1944	1,623	320	46	233	7	2,229
1945	1,363	304	39	209	10	1,925
1946	1,472	255	28	295	8	2,058
1947	1,325	280	24	283	10	1,922
1948	1,246	252	28	273	16	1,815
1949	1,134	192	24	300	14	1,664
1950	1,372	165	18	581	29	2,165
1951	988	112	23	607	15	1,745
1952	929	118	38	886	10	1,981
1953	715	212	86	771	24	1,808
1954	727	354	63	958	18	2,122
1955	663	460	72	1,217	68	2,480
1956	670	442	96	1,509	79	2,796
1957 ^{1/}	556	411	158	1,545	140	2,810

^{1/} Preliminary.

Source: Agricultural Statistics, U. S. Dept. of Agric.; Agricultural Statistics for Arkansas, Arkansas Dept. of Agric., Little Rock; and Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville; Crop Production, Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Dept. of Agric.

Figure 7.--Acreage harvested and production of grain in Arkansas, 1940-57 ^{1/}



^{1/} Corn, oats, wheat, and soybeans for beans and grain sorghum

Table 12.--Production of principal grain crops in Arkansas, 1940-57

Year	Corn	Oats	Wheat	Soybeans	Sorghum	Total
1,000 bushels						
1940	46,032	6,201	341	756	232	53,562
1941	40,812	5,946	315	1,740	126	48,939
1942	37,116	7,904	242	3,255	118	48,635
1943	22,300	6,850	187	2,536	50	31,923
1944	26,780	8,832	685	3,612	100	40,009
1945	28,623	8,208	410	3,344	170	40,755
1946	30,912	7,650	392	5,458	120	44,532
1947	22,525	8,400	360	3,396	150	34,831
1948	28,658	7,812	476	5,460	288	42,694
1949	24,948	4,704	348	6,300	241	36,541
1950	32,242	4,620	252	12,492	493	50,099
1951	23,218	2,800	356	12,140	315	38,829
1952	13,935	3,835	684	14,176	170	32,800
1953	11,798	7,632	1,634	8,481	360	29,905
1954	8,019	15,222	1,701	11,017	270	36,229
1955	19,558	16,560	1,404	21,906	1,564	60,992
1956	18,090	18,564	2,736	27,162	1,738	68,290
1957 ^{1/}	15,012	7,809	2,607	32,445	3,360	61,233

^{1/} Preliminary.

Source: Agricultural Statistics, U. S. Dept. of Agric.
 Agricultural Statistics for Arkansas, Arkansas Dept. of Agric.,
 Little Rock, and Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville,
 Crop Production, Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Dept. of Agric.

Figure 8.--Production of corn in Arkansas, 1940-57

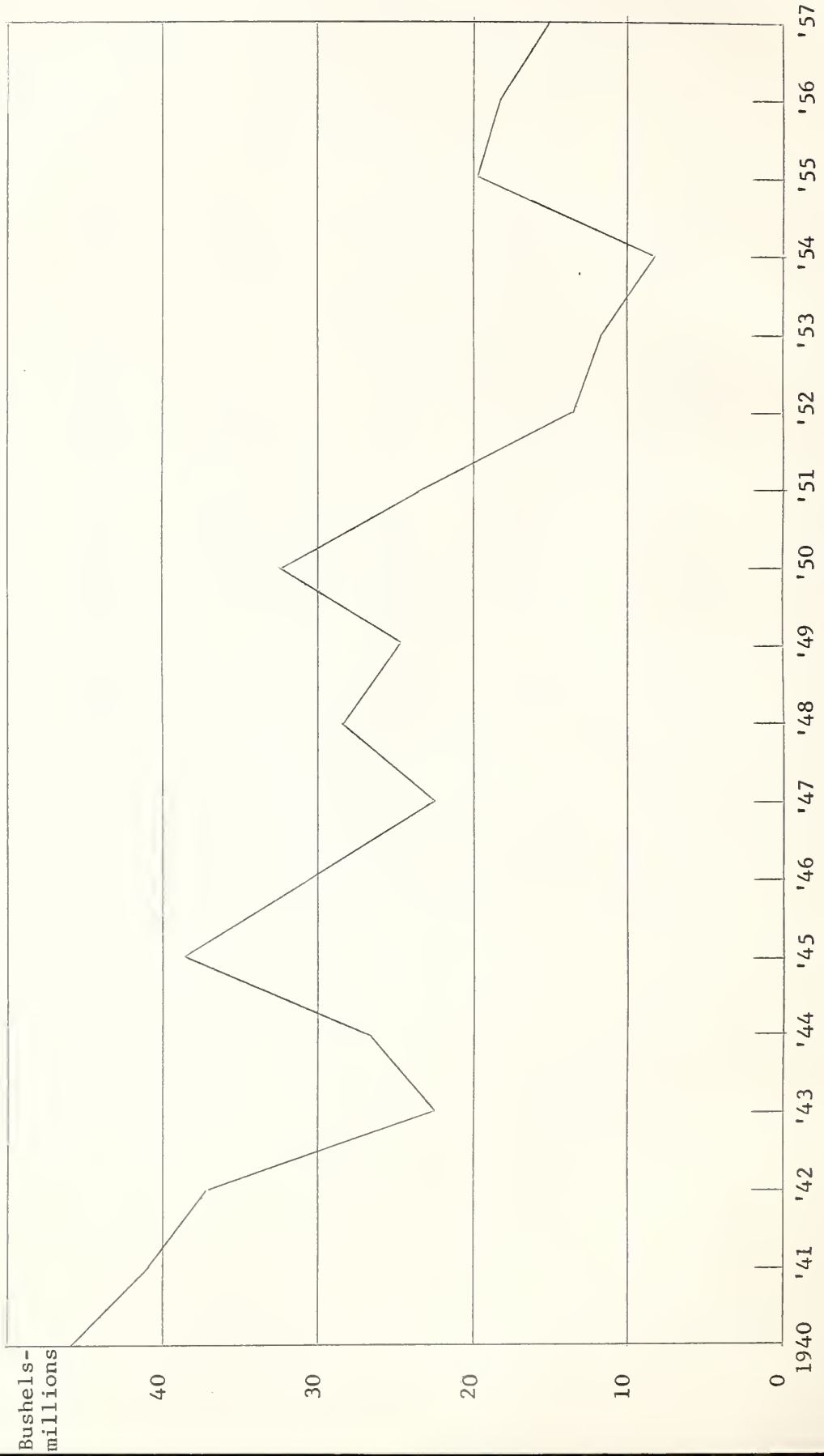


Figure 9.--Production of wheat, oats, and soybeans in Arkansas, 1940-57

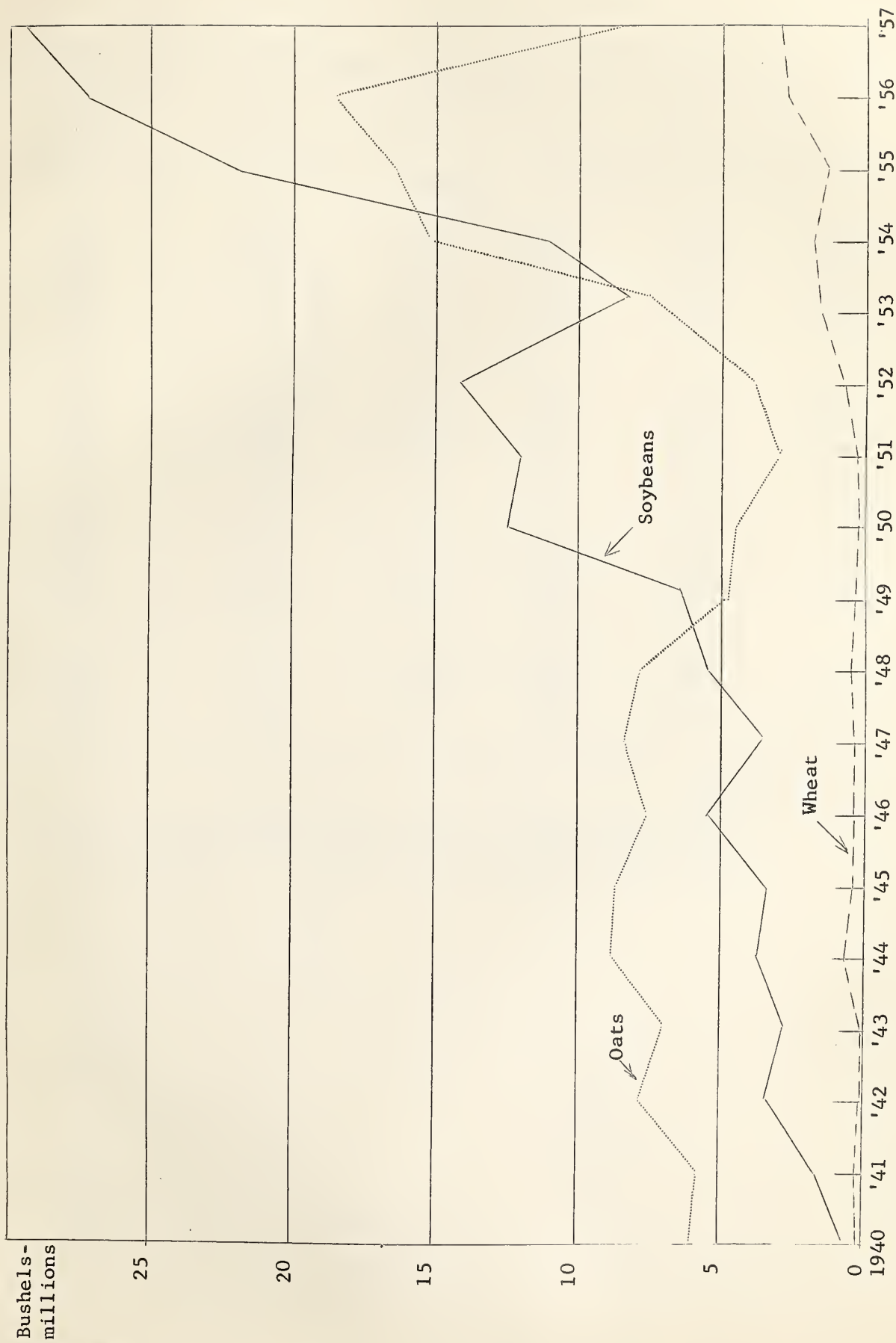


Table 13.--Yield per acre of principal grain crops in Arkansas, 1940-57

Year	Corn	Oats	Wheat	Soybeans	Sorghum
<u>Bushels</u>					
1940	21.0	26.5	11.0	12.0	17.0
1941	19.0	23.5	10.55	15.0	15.8
1942	18.0	26.0	11.0	15.0	14.8
1943	12.5	25.0	11.0	9.5	10.0
1944	16.5	27.6	14.9	15.5	14.3
1945	21.0	27.0	10.5	16.0	17.0
1946	21.0	30.0	14.0	18.5	15.0
1957	17.0	30.0	15.0	12.0	15.0
1948	23.0	31.0	17.0	20.0	18.0
1949	22.0	24.9	14.5	21.0	17.2
1950	23.5	28.0	14.0	21.5	17.0
1951	23.5	25.0	15.5	20.0	21.0
1952	15.0	32.5	18.0	16.0	17.0
1953	16.5	36.0	19.0	11.0	15.0
1954	11.0	43.0	27.0	11.5	15.0
1955	29.5	36.0	19.5	18.0	23.0
1956	27.0	42.0	28.5	18.0	22.0
1957 <u>1/</u>	27.0	19.0	16.5	21.0	24.0

1/ Preliminary.

Source: Agricultural Statistics, U. S. Dept. of Agric.
 Agricultural Statistics of Arkansas, Arkansas Dept. of Agric.,
 Little Rock, Crop Production, Agricultural Marketing Service,
 U. S. Dept. of Agric.

Table 14.---Average annual acreage and production of specified grain in Arkansas by specified periods, 1940-57

Period	Average acreage			Average production						
	Corn	Oats	Wheat	Soybeans	Total ¹	Corn	Oats	Wheat	Soybeans	Total ¹
	1,000 acres					1,000 bushels				
1940-44	1,962	277	29	179	2,456	34,608	7,147	354	2,380	44,614
1945-49	1,308	257	29	272	1,877	27,133	7,355	397	4,792	39,871
1950-54	947	192	46	761	1,964	17,842	6,822	925	11,661	37,572
1955-57	630	438	109	1,424	2,695	17,353	14,311	2,249	27,171	63,505

¹/ Includes sorghum.

Source: Tables 1 and 2.

Table 15.--Various grains sold off farm where grown in Arkansas, 1940-57

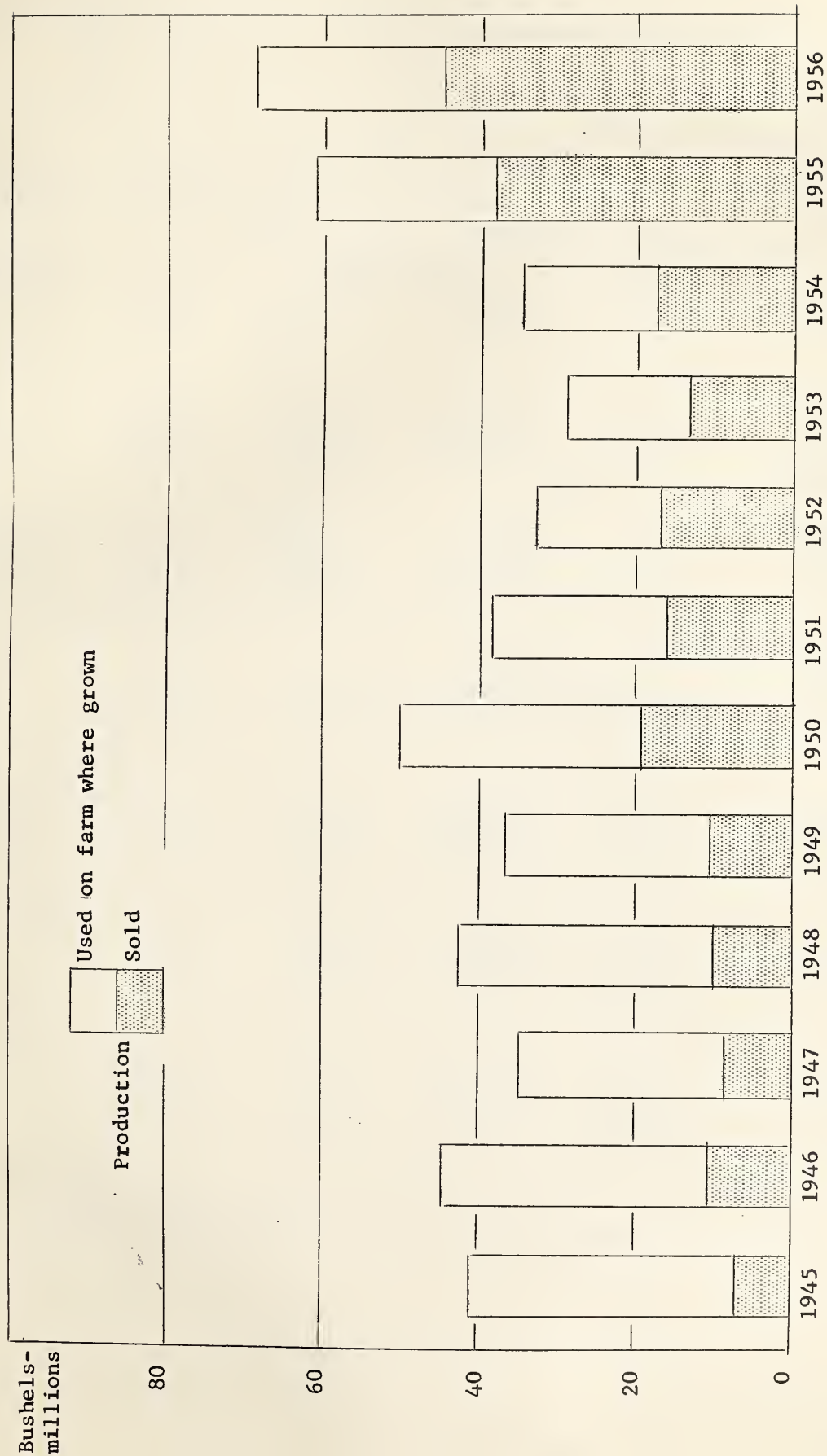
Year	Corn	Oats	Wheat	Soybeans	Sorghum	Total	Percentage of production sold
			1,000 bushels				Percent
1940	5,864	7716	1136	499	16	7,231	13.5
1941	4,799	714	1127	1,376	7	7,023	14.4
1942	2,880	869	77	2,835	8	6,669	13.7
1943	1,878	754	22	2,210	4	4,868	15.2
1944	2,297	1,501	342	3,309	7	7,456	18.6
1945	3,084	1,313	156	3,007	11	7,571	18.6
1946	2,863	1,989	211	5,197	8	10,268	23.1
1947	2,800	2,100	216	3,229	10	8,355	24.0
1948	3,951	2,031	176	5,216	43	11,417	26.7
1949	2,662	1,882	157	5,993	51	10,745	29.4
1950	5,656	1,571	88	11,953	99	19,367	38.7
1951	3,366	1,120	101	11,505	44	16,136	41.6
1952	1,489	1,918	314	13,590	20	17,331	52.8
1953	1,516	2,671	1,272	7,971	158	13,588	45.4
1954	530	6,037	1,275	9,862	72	17,776	51.3
1955	4,158	10,764	1,142	21,147	938	38,149	62.4
1956 ^{1/}	4,360	11,881	2,313	26,344	1,043	45,941	67.3
1957 ^{2/}	3,002	5,076	2,086	31,147	2,016	43,327	70.8

^{1/} Preliminary.

^{2/} Estimated

Source: Field and Crop Seeds, Farm Production, Farm Disposition and Value, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Dept. of Agric.

Figure 10.--Production and farm disposition of grain 1/ in Arkansas, 1945-56



1/ Corn, oats, wheat, and soybeans and grain sorghum

Table 16.--Average annual production of grain in Arkansas, by kinds, for crop years 1955-57

Kind of grain	Average of three crops 1955-57		Percentage of production sold
	Production	Sales	
	1,000 bushels		Percent
Corn	17,553	3,840	21.9
Oats	14,311	9,240	64.6
Wheat	2,249	1,847	82.1
Soybeans	27,171	26,213	96.5
Sorghum	2,221	1,332	60.0
Total	63,505	42,472	66.9

1/ 1957 indicated.

Source: Calculated from tables 2 and 5.

Table 17.--Comparison between 12 southeastern Delta counties in Arkansas ^{1/} and remaining 69 counties in the State of acreage harvested and production in 1956 and sales in 1954, by kinds of grain

Kind of grain and area	1956				1954
	Acreage harvested		Production		Percentage of
	Percentage		Percentage		production
	Total	of State	Total	of State	sold
	total		total		<u>2/</u>
	1,000 acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Percent	Percent
<u>Corn</u>					
Delta	151.8	22.7	4,072.7	22.5	27.3
Others	518.2	77.3	14,017.3	77.5	22.4
Total	670.0	100.0	18,090.0	100.0	23.7
<u>Oats</u>					
Delta	255.0	57.7	9,704.0	52.3	68.9
Others	187.0	42.3	8,860.0	47.7	47.9
Total	442.0	100.0	18,564.0	100.0	58.9
<u>Wheat</u>					
Delta	9.4	9.8	268.7	9.8	77.8
Others	86.6	90.2	2,467.3	90.2	77.5
Total	96.0	100.0	2,736.0	100.0	77.6
<u>Soybeans for beans</u>					
Delta	363.2	24.1	7,233.2	26.6	95.0
Others	1,145.8	75.9	19,928.8	73.4	95.5
Total	1,509.0	100.0	27,162.0	100.0	95.4
<u>Grain sorghum</u>					
Delta	25.6	32.4	492.3	28.3	33.4
Others	53.4	67.6	1,245.7	71.7	47.2
Total	79.0	100.0	1,738.0	100.0	43.3
<u>Total</u>					
Delta	805.0	28.8	21,770.1	31.9	67.0
Others	1,991.0	71.2	46,519.9	68.1	63.1
Total	2,796.0	100.0	68,290.0	100.0	64.4

^{1/} Arkansas, Lee, Lonake, Monroe, Phillips, Prairie, Ashley, Chicot, Desha, Drew, Jefferson, and Lincoln.

^{2/} Calculated from 1954 Census of Agriculture, U. S. Bureau of the Census.

Table 18.--Grain production 1952 and 1956 1/and estimated sales 1956 1/for specified counties in Arkansas

Area	Grain production				Estimated sales 1956 4/ 1,000 bu.
	1952 2/ 1,000 bu.	1956 3/ 1,000 bu.	Change 1952 to 1956		
			1,000 bu.	Percent	
Southeastern Delta counties:					
Arkansas	1,633	5,806	+ 4,173	+ 255.5	5,063
Lee	765	1,852	+ 1,087	+ 142.1	841
Lonoke	694	1,827	+ 1,133	+ 163.3	1,233
Monroe	401	1,076	+ 675	+ 168.3	1,765
Phillips	1,335	2,411	+ 1,076	+ 80.5	1,334
Prairie	621	2,251	+ 1,630	+ 262.5	1,684
Ashley	309	851	+ 542	+ 175.4	339
Chicot	371	1,151	+ 780	+ 210.2	650
Desha	783	1,372	+ 1,589	+ 75.2	706
Drew	273	465	+ 192	+ 70.3	248
Jefferson	663	1,882	+ 1,219	+ 183.9	1,110
Lincoln	391	826	+ 435	+ 111.5	382
Total Delta	8,239	21,770	+13,531	+ 164.2	14,355
All other counties	24,241	46,520	+22,279	+ 91.9	31,586
Total - State	32,480	68,290	+35,810	+ 110.3	45,941

1/ Corn, oats, wheat, and soybeans for beans and grain sorghum.

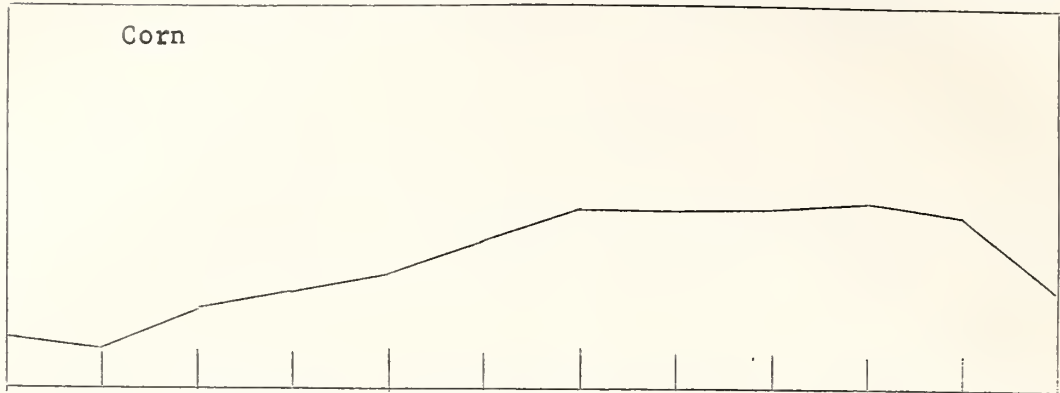
2/ County figures for corn, oats, and sorghum estimated from figures shown by 1954 Census of Agriculture, U. S. Bureau of the Census - wheat estimated from 1956 figures from Crop Reporting Service, Little Rock, Ark.

3/ County figures for oats based on 1954 Census of Agriculture, U. S. Bureau of the Census.

4/ County figures estimated from sales reported by 1954 Census of Agriculture, U. S. Bureau of the Census.

Figure 11.--Average mid-month prices received for specified grain by farmers in Arkansas, 7-year average, 1950-51 to 1956-57

Dollars
per
bushel
1.65
1.55



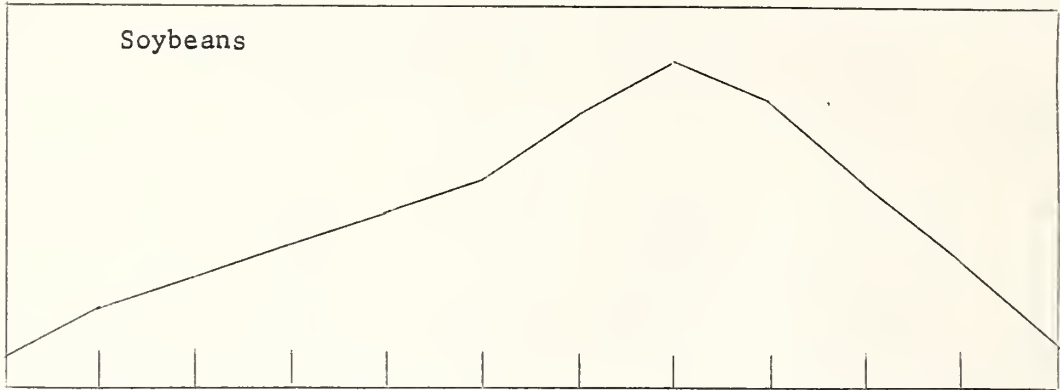
3.00

2.80

2.60

2.40

2.20



Oct. 15 Nov. 15 Dec. 15 Jan. 15 Feb. 15 Mar. 15 Apr. 15 May 15 June 15 July 15 Aug. 15 Sept. 15

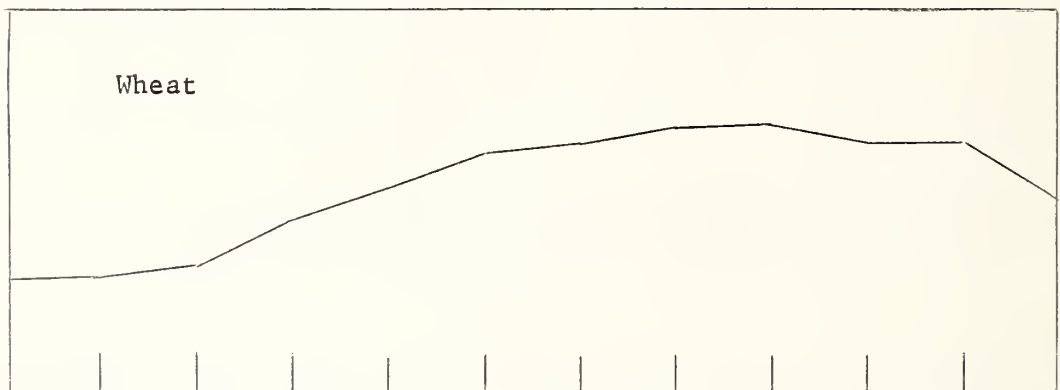
2.20

2.10

2.00

1.90

1.80



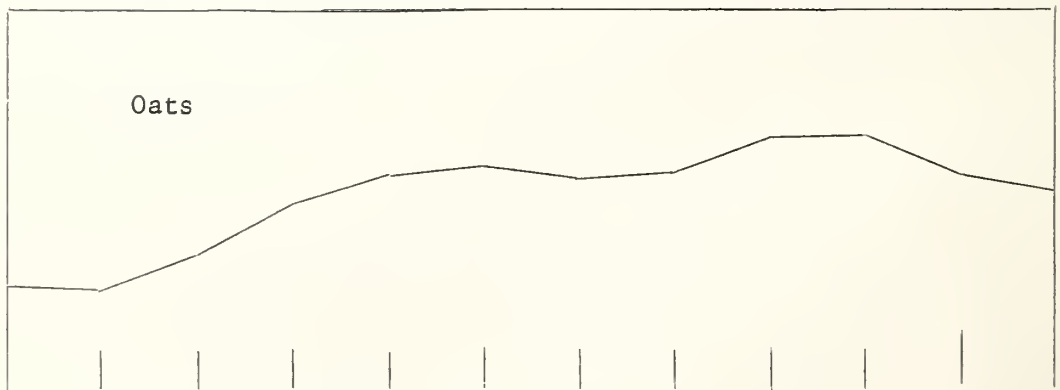
1.10

1.00

.90

.80

.70



June 15 July 15 Aug. 15 Sept. 15 Oct. 15 Nov. 15 Dec. 15 Jan. 15 Feb. 15 Mar. 15 Apr. 15 May 15

Table 20.--Average mid-month prices received for wheat and oats by farmers in Arkansas, 1950-51 to 1956-57

Grain and year	June 15	July 15	Aug. 15	Sept. 15	Oct. 15	Nov. 15	Dec. 15	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 15	May 15
Dollars per bushel												
<u>Wheat</u>												
1950-51	1.92	1.97	1.97	1.96	1.94	2.01	2.03	2.13	2.20	2.10	2.13	2.05
1951-52	2.10	2.07	2.03	2.08	2.11	2.20	2.19	2.25	2.22	2.22	2.20	2.13
1952-53	2.02	2.02	2.09	2.13	2.15	2.15	2.14	2.11	2.11	2.15	2.12	2.01
1953-54	1.84	1.84	1.83	2.00	2.00	2.05	2.00	2.06	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04
1954-55	1.84	.187	1.93	1.93	1.95	1.99	2.06	2.01	2.06	2.06	2.00	1.95
1955-56	1.85	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.95	1.91	1.95	1.90	1.86	1.86	1.89	1.93
1956-57	1.87	1.85	1.86	1.92	1.99	2.03	2.08	2.08	2.05	2.01	2.03	1.90
7 yr. av.												47
1950-56	1.92	1.92	1.93	1.98	2.01	2.05	2.06	2.08	2.08	2.06	2.06	2.00
<u>Oats</u>												
1950-51	.93	.90	.90	.96	.96	.99	.99	1.00	1.05	1.10	1.06	1.07
1951-52	1.05	1.01	1.00	1.03	1.05	1.07	1.05	1.10	1.10	1.12	1.12	1.10
1952-53	.97	.93	1.02	1.08	1.12	1.10	1.08	1.08	1.12	1.09	1.02	.99
1953-54	.77	.80	.85	.92	.92	.92	.93	.93	.94	.94	.90	.88
1954-55	.69	.68	.76	.82	.90	.93	.91	.91	.92	.92	.88	.83
1955-56	.68	.66	.69	.70	.76	.75	.70	.70	.70	.73	.72	.70
1956-57	.60	.62	.66	.72	.73	.78	.80	.82	.83	.82	.81	.80
7 yr. av.												
1950-56	.81	.80	.84	.89	.92	.93	.92	.93	.96	.96	.93	.91

Source: Agricultural Prices, Crop Reporting Board, U. A. Dept. of Agric.

